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COUNTRY China

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SUPPLEMENT

1. The Tientsin Movement Committee, which is under the direct command of the Chi Chung Military District Headquarters, is in charge of all Communist activities in Tientsin. These activities consist of penetrating Nationalist organizations and offices in the city, purchasing munitions, establishing communication routes between Tientsin and Communist-held areas, preparation for military offensive on the city, disseminating Communist propaganda in the city.
2. The leaders of this group are MENG Ch'ing-shan (孟慶山), HOU T'ai-ho (候太和), CHU Kuo-en (褚國恩), CHU Chan-kwei (朱占奎). These people in general are more interested in getting personal power and influence than in establishing the Communist movement here. Their main basis of operation is establishing reciprocal agreements with local Nationalists who have families or friends in the Communist liberated area. The Nationalist offers general information and gives his assurance that he will vouch for and obtain the release of any Communist agents captured in the city. The Communist in turn offers security for the Nationalist's family and friends who are in the liberated area; occasionally gives information of a general character, and gives the Nationalist a semi-Communist standing so that, should the Communists take the city, he would not be harmed.
3. The main object of the Tientsin Movement Committee is to obtain munitions and chemicals to make munitions so that the Communists in the areas around Tientsin may continue to be self-sufficient in this respect and not depend upon receiving weapons from Yanan. These munitions are obtained from merchants who bring them munitions hidden in false-bottomed gasoline cans or in junks in exchange for permission to bring food into Tientsin, which is a profitable business because of the semi-blockade. Merchants are inspected by the Nationalists at various stations, but if discovered can usually get through by paying off the guards. Munitions enter the Communist area mainly through Yangtze'un (117-05, 39-23), Hsiaochan (117-26, 38-55) and Shengfang (116-42, 39-05).

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